

(WASHINGTON)--- Congressman Allen West (FL-22) released this statement today on the 63rd Birthday of Israel's Independence: "Today, Israel celebrates 63 years since it was declared an Independent State, the homeland of the Jewish people, and a proud country. In the more than six decades since Israel became its own nation, it has built one of the most stable and advanced economies in the world, with remarkable achievements and contributions in agriculture, medicine and technology. The Israeli people are to be commended and admired.

Unfortunately, Israel remains under constant attack from an enemy that will stop at nothing until the State of Israel is destroyed, the same enemy that also wants nothing more than to see the United States defeated and diminished.

America must take a stand in showing these dangerous enemies, as well as the rest of the world, that the United States will do whatever it takes to protect its loyal and steadfast ally, the only democratic nation in the Middle East, the State of Israel.

Unfortunately, the Obama Doctrine seems to be one in which we abandon our allies while emboldening our enemies. The United States cannot show weakness or expect that these organizations such as Hamas and Hezbollah are willing to negotiate or compromise. President Obama must commit to providing Israel with the necessary resources to protect its borders and its sovereignty today, tomorrow, and in the future.

The United States must remain firm in our commitment to the peace and security of the Jewish State by among other things, ceasing funding to the Palestinian Authority- now in a unity agreement with known terrorist organizations- Fatah and Hamas- immediately.

There is much to learn from the dedication, vigilance and passion of the Israeli people. On this day, I congratulate Israel for 63 years of Statehood, and assure the Israeli people of my dedication and commitment to ensuring that their country remain free and independent, now and forever."

###